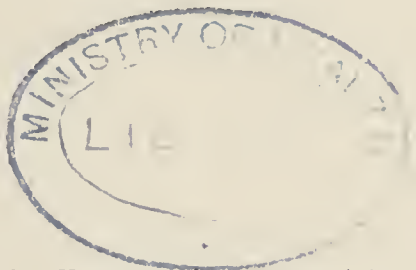


Reeth,
June, 1953.

REETH RURAL DISTRICT

Officials: W. C. Speirs, M.B., Ch.B., M.O.H.
J. V. Metcalfe, Sanitary Inspector.



Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1952.

The statistics are based on a population of 2,001 persons - the population has been steadily declining for the last 50 years. In 1933 the population was 2,228.

The area of the district is 74,538 acres, or 116 square miles.

The density of the population is 17.24 persons to each square mile.

The number of inhabited houses on 31st December, 1952 was 996.

The rateable value is £8,207, and a penny rate field £32 0s.1d.

There are no dangerous trades in your area.

VITAL STATISTICS

	M	F	TOTAL	Rate per 1,000 Population	Rate per 1,000 total Births
Live Births	9	15	24	12	
Legitimate	9	14	23		
Illegitimate	-	1	1		
Still Births	-	-	-		
Deaths	14	13	27	13.5	
Deaths under one year	1	1	2		83.33
Deaths under four weeks	1	1	2		83.33

There was no death from sepsis or other puerperal causes.

The total number of deaths was 27, giving a death rate per 1,000 of 13.5.

Deaths from Measles	Nil
" " Whooping Cough	Nil
" " Cancer	6

NURSING

The nursing of nearly the whole district is carried out by a nurse residing in Reeth.

Marrick and Hurst come in the area worked by nurses residing in Richmond.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Sputa are sent to the County Laboratory at The Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

Infectious cases requiring hospital treatment are sent to the Isolation Hospital at Darlington.

There were no cases of food poisoning notified in 1952.

The water supply causes a great deal of concern, as so many cottages have been taken as weekend residences by townspeople. They install baths, flush water-closets and hand-basins. This applies to all the villages, and the gradual drain on the existing water supplies causes a serious shortage.

The analyses of existing supplies show that coliform bacilli are present in great numbers. The explanation is that the gathering grounds are eaten by cattle and sheep. If the samples are taken after a spate coliform bacilli are present in large numbers.

The water supplied by taps in the school yards is grossly contaminated. One school - Low Row - varies considerably, and on occasions is very fair.

It is only right to point out that in spite of these analyses no alimentary disease occurs in the children attending school.

A water scheme costing £150,000 for the whole of the area has been considered, but abandoned as an insufficient grant was offered by the Ministry. A smaller scheme missing some hamlets has been mooted, but the Ministry cannot see their way to help after an enquiry held at Reeth.

The water is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

The number of houses supplied by water mains is 639; by stand pipes 9.

Water Supplies per Parish

ADDENDUM TO WATER SUPPLIES

Parish	No. of Houses	Piped supply from mains	By Stand Pipes
REETH	297	282	Nil
MELBECKS	207	180	2
GRINTON	98	40	Nil
MUKER	175	73	1
MARRICK	61	11	3
ARKENGARTHDALE	150	53	3
ELLERTON	8	Nil	Nil
Total	996	639	9

Suitable sewerage was constructed for 12 new council houses at Reeth.

An efficient septic tank was constructed for 2 new houses at Keld.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

	M	F	Total
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	-	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-
Pneumonia	3	2	5
Erysipelas	-	1	1
Measles	2	2	4
Whooping Cough	6	5	11

TUBERCULOSIS

<u>NEW CASES</u>					<u>DEATHS</u>			
Age	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 plus	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Total	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) William C. Speirs.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30033147>

Reeth Rural District Council
SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1952.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

WATER SUPPLIES

During the year under review there has been no material improvement to water supplies throughout the area, and the position can only be described as alarming. The supply to the township of Reeth is totally unsuitable, the springs on Calva during dry periods being short of requirements by 10,000 gallons per 24 hours. During full springs there is a shortage of requirements from Calva of 5,600 gallons per 24 hours, due to the frictional loss on the bore of the small diameter main ($1\frac{1}{2}$ "). The deficiency is being made up by a temporary surface pipe laid from springs on Fremington Edge. Both supplies are subject to surface contamination, as shown by bacteriological analysis. Even during winter months, owing to the frictional loss previously mentioned, the supply from Calva cannot meet the demand, consequently the temporary supply from Fremington Edge must be kept on, at the risk of a sudden frost damaging the exposed pipes. During continued frost the latter supply is turned off and the pipes drained.

Grinton Shortages have occurred here owing to the furring up of the 1" supply pipe between the collecting and storage tanks. At one time the services of the Fire Brigade were called upon to force a passage through the pipes, after which an improvement was found, but this can only be regarded as temporary. In the very near future new and larger diameter mains will need to be provided.

Keld This village is still supplied by a temporary pipe line suspended over the River Swale.

Seasonal Shortages These continue to occur during dry periods at Keld, Thwaite, Gunnerside, Low Row, Healaugh and Marrick.

Bacteriological Examination Samples taken throughout the year show that all sources of supply throughout the area must be regarded with suspicion.

The foregoing is a summary of the position throughout the district, and it now seems, in view of the increasing cost of the Regional Scheme and the inadequacy of the Grant offered, that the Scheme cannot now go forward. In relation to this, I do feel that the needs of agriculture have been greatly exaggerated, thereby imposing upon the Council, and subsequently the ratepayers of the district, a responsibility to carry out work and bear the cost of a scheme increased in scope for the benefit only of a small minority. As it is a Council's duty to provide adequate and wholesome supplies of water to houses and schools, this requirement could, in my opinion, be fulfilled by smaller schemes at a greatly reduced cost. Marrick could be served independently from the springs at Stelling; Keld from a spring about 2,000 yards to the West, the water outcropping a few feet above the level of the River Swale; Reeth, Fremington, Grinton, Healaugh, Low Row, Crackpot and Gunnerside from springs on Bouldershaw Moor opposite Barras End High Level.

SEWERAGE

No new schemes of sewerage have been embarked upon, these awaiting provision of adequate water supplies.

The Yorkshire Ouse Rivers Board have repeatedly submitted copies of analysis showing bad effluents from Council sewage works discharging into watercourses.

To serve the new Council houses at Reeth, 262 yards of 6 inch sewers were connected to the existing system.

HOUSING

During the year under review a further 157 houses have been classified for the purposes of the Rural Housing Survey, a summary of which is now:

Total number of houses inspected:	592
Number satisfactory in all respects:	58
Minor defects:	161
Requiring repairs or structural alterations:	249
Suitable for improvement under the Housing Acts:	188
Unfit:	68

It is here pointed out that the above does not represent fully detailed inspections; however, from the results obtained it is clear that the general standard throughout the district requires a good deal of improvement, particularly as regards the amenities of hot water, bathrooms and washing accommodation. The majority of houses suffer to a greater or lesser extent from dampness, both rising and penetrative, the former due to the absence of damp-proof courses.

Improvements to existing houses during the year:

New bathrooms:	8
Hot water systems:	9
Internal W.Cs.	9
New kitchens:	1
Sculleries:	2
Bedrooms:	2
Coal and fuel stores:	4
Private sewage disposal:	5

Conversion of derelict property to dwelling houses: 2

New Houses Twelve Council houses were completed and occupied at Reeth during the year.

Private building Work in progress on 5 new houses.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Conversions to W.Cs.	11
Additional W.Cs. to existing houses:	3
New W.Cs. on improvements:	6
W.Cs. to new houses:	12
Private sewage disposal systems:	5
New drainage tested (yards):	476
Number of drain tests (new drains):	57
Tests to old drains:	25

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The service has been maintained throughout the year, disposal being by tipping at Ellerton Moor, Feetham Wood and Low Level. The

tip on Ellerton Moor has at times been in an unsightly condition, due to its exposed position, and the large amount of loose paper deposited in bins. The better co-operation of householders is required to reduce this nuisance. I have also to report that too many householders have not provided proper bins for the deposit of refuse, and it is recommended that if there is no improvement, enforcement action should be taken.

The collection of paper salvage realised the sum of £46, but owing to the lack of demand from the mills the service had to be discontinued.

Costs of Collection and Disposal

	£		
Wages and National Insurance:	681	11	0
Petrol and Oil:	108	18	3
Tyres:	5	16	10
Maintenance of vehicle:	4	2	0
Road Fund Licence and Insurance:	42	0	0
(500 gallons of petrol: 5,085 miles 10.15 M.P.G.)			
	£842	8	1

FOOD INSPECTION

There are no slaughterhouses in operation in the area, consequently food inspection is confined to meat and other foods at Retail Shops. Only small quantities of meat, flour and tinned goods have been condemned as unfit for human consumption.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Premises registered under Section 14.

Manufacture of cooked meats:	2
Manufacture of Ice Cream	2
Sale of pre-packed Ice Cream:	8
Number of inspections:	52
Bakehouses:	5
Inspections:	34

FOOD HYGIENE

It is pleasing to report that the retail food shops throughout the district continue to maintain a high standard in the handling of foodstuffs, as also do the cafes and licensed premises.

SCHOOLS

Water supplies to schools in the area, with the exception of Reeth and Arkengarthdale are supplied from Council mains. Bacteriological examination of the various supplies shows that the water supplied must be regarded with suspicion.

Flush lavatories and urinals connected to the Council sewer have now been installed at Gunnerside School.

RODENT CONTROL

During the year a firm control was kept over rodent infestation at Council refuse tips and sewage disposal works, using with success non-poison pre-baits followed with Zinc Phosphide.

Other premises, houses, hotels, piggeries, have been successfully dealt with using "Warfarin."

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The conveniences at Reeth and Low Row have suffered damage, especially the former, through vandalism, coin box locks being repeatedly out of commission, toilet paper pilfered, and holders broken.

FACTORIES

There are 7 factories on the register, and routine inspections for the purposes of Part 1 of the Act showed no defects.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS

Total number of inspections made for nuisances only:	53
Nuisances in hand at end of previous year:	5
Total needing abatement:	52
Abated during the year:	49
Outstanding at the end of the year:	4
Informal notices served:	3
Notices complied with:	3
Statutory notices served:	Nil

TENTS VANS AND SHEDS

There has been no increase of these structures during the year under review. In one instance a converted bus body was stationed for use as a caravan dwelling without permission. Joint action by the District Council and Planning Authority secured its removal. Individual caravans stationed during holiday periods have been well conducted.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES

Number of houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts:	37
Number of visits necessary to the above houses:	63
Number of houses found to be not in all respects fit for habitation:	37
Number of houses made fit as a result of informal action:	33

There were no cases of overcrowding in the district.

SHOPS ACT, 1934, SECTIONS 10 & 13 (3)

For the purposes of this Act, 80 visits were paid to shops in the area, and in no case was any statutory action required.

BUILDING BYELAWS

The administration of the Building Byelaws is carried out by the department, necessitating 104 visits to works in progress.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT REGULATIONS

Visits to establishments re storage and licences:	16
---	----

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Complaints investigated:	27
Drainage work in progress:	111
Bakeries:	34
Food premises:	96
Licensed premises:	28
Ice Cream manufacturers:	23
Rodent Control	137
Private water supplies:	69
Council water supplies:	153
Council sewage works:	27
Refuse tips:	36
Piggeries:	18
Dairies:	39
Miscellaneous	53

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. V. Metcalfe,
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

